

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An isolated polypeptide, comprising at least 15 contiguous amino acid residues of an amino acid sequence of ~~SEQ ID NO:38 or~~ SEQ ID NO:48 selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) amino acid residues 24 to 230 of SEQ ID NO:48;
- (b) amino acid residues 27 to 230 of SEQ ID NO:48;
- (c) amino acid residues 27 to 126 of SEQ ID NO:48; and
- (d) amino acid residues 131 to 230 of SEQ ID NO:48; and
- (e) amino acid residues 1 to 230 of SEQ ID NO:48.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~The isolated polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide comprises~~ An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence of ~~SEQ ID NO:38 or~~ SEQ ID NO:48 selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) amino acid residues 24 to 230 of SEQ ID NO:48;
- (b) amino acid residues 27 to 230 of SEQ ID NO:48;
- (c) amino acid residues 27 to 126 of SEQ ID NO:48; and
- (d) amino acid residues 131 to 230 of SEQ ID NO:48; and
- (e) amino acid residues 1 to 230 of SEQ ID NO:48.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~The isolated polypeptide of claim 1-2, wherein the polypeptide consists of~~ an amino acid sequence of ~~SEQ ID NO:38 or~~ SEQ ID NO:48 selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) amino acid residues 24 to 230 of SEQ ID NO:48;
- (b) amino acid residues 27 to 230 of SEQ ID NO:48;
- (c) amino acid residues 27 to 126 of SEQ ID NO:48; and
- (d) amino acid residues 131 to 230 of SEQ ID NO:48; and
- (e) amino acid residues 1 to 230 of SEQ ID NO:48.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

Claims 6-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A fusion protein, comprising the polypeptide of claim 32.

18. (Original) The fusion protein of claim 17, wherein the fusion protein further comprises an immunoglobulin moiety.

Claims 19-40. (Cancelled)

41. (Cancelled)

42. (Cancelled)

43. (Cancelled)

44. (Cancelled)

45. (Currently Amended) An isolated soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide comprising a sequence of amino acid residues as shown in ~~SEQ ID NO:38~~ or SEQ ID NO:48 from amino acid 24 to 230, or 27 to 230, wherein the soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide forms a homodimeric, heterodimeric or multimeric receptor complex.

46. (Currently Amended) The ~~An~~ isolated polypeptide according to claim 45, wherein the soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide forms a heterodimeric or multimeric receptor complex further comprising a soluble Class I or Class II cytokine receptor.

47. (Currently Amended) The ~~An~~ isolated polypeptide according to claim 45, wherein the soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide forms a heterodimeric or multimeric receptor complex comprising a soluble CRF2-4 receptor polypeptide (SEQ ID NO:35), a soluble IL-10 receptor polypeptide (SEQ ID NO:36), or soluble zcytor11 receptor polypeptide (SEQ ID NO:34).

48. (Currently Amended) The ~~An~~ isolated polypeptide according to claim 45, wherein the soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide further comprises an affinity tag, chemical moiety, toxin, ~~or~~ label, biotin/avidin label, radionuclide, enzyme, substrate, cofactor, inhibitor, fluorescent marker, chemiluminescent marker, cytotoxic molecule or an immunoglobulin Fc domain.

49. (Currently Amended) An isolated heterodimeric or multimeric soluble receptor complex comprising soluble receptor subunits, wherein at least one of the soluble receptor subunits comprises a soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide comprising a sequence of amino acid residues as shown in ~~SEQ ID NO:38~~ ~~or~~ SEQ ID NO:48 from amino acid 24 to 230, or 27 to 230.

50. (Currently Amended) The ~~An~~ isolated heterodimeric or multimeric soluble receptor complex according to claim 49, further comprising a soluble Class I or Class II cytokine receptor polypeptide.

51. (Currently Amended) The ~~An~~ isolated heterodimeric or multimeric soluble receptor complex according to claim 49, further comprising a soluble CRF2-4 receptor polypeptide (SEQ ID NO:35), a soluble IL-10 receptor polypeptide (SEQ ID NO:36), or soluble zcytor11 receptor polypeptide (SEQ ID NO:34).

Claims 52-67. (Cancelled)

68. (New) The fusion protein of claim 17, wherein the fusion protein further comprises an affinity tag, chemical moiety, toxin, label, biotin/avidin label, radionuclide, enzyme, substrate, cofactor, inhibitor, fluorescent marker, chemiluminescent marker, cytotoxic molecule or an immunoglobulin Fc domain.

69. (New) The fusion protein of claim 17, wherein the fusion protein binds IL-TIF or antagonizes IL-TIF activity.

70. (New) The isolated heterodimeric or multimeric soluble receptor complex according to claim 49, wherein the soluble receptor complex further comprises an affinity tag, chemical moiety, toxin, label, biotin/avidin label, radionuclide, enzyme, substrate, cofactor, inhibitor, fluorescent marker, chemiluminescent marker, cytotoxic molecule or an immunoglobulin Fc domain.

71. (New) An isolated soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide receptor complex comprising a sequence of amino acid residues as shown in SEQ ID NO:48 from amino acid 24 to 230, or 27 to 230.

72. (New) The isolated soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide receptor complex of claim 71, wherein the receptor complex further comprises an affinity tag, label, chemical moiety, toxin, biotin/avidin label, radionuclide, enzyme, substrate, cofactor, inhibitor, fluorescent marker, chemiluminescent marker, cytotoxic molecule or an immunoglobulin Fc domain.

73. (New) The isolated soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide receptor complex of claim 71, wherein the receptor complex binds IL-TIF or antagonizes IL-TIF activity.

74. (New) The isolated soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide receptor complex of claim 49, wherein the receptor complex binds IL-TIF or antagonizes IL-TIF activity.